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+ Saturday, Dr. G. went to town in the morning on business. – ~~I thought~~ ^In the afternoon^ ~~we had a treaty~~ (We went, Mr. Ward, 2 Miss Wards, Dr. & I. in a brougham (stopped first on Clapham Common to see the splendid house & grounds of Mr. Hutton) & drove thro: Wandsworth, Putney, & across Hammersmith bridge to Chiswick. – the 3 & last great Horticultural show of the season. Many thousands of people there – (tickets 5/) scattered over the grounds & most splendid flowers & fruits, shown under open tents. Heaths in pots bearing some millions of flowers on one plant. The Duke of Devonshire threw open on this occasion his (adjacent) grounds – so fine & large & picturesque, and such noble cedars of Lebanon near the Villa, – among the very largest in England, the lower limbs stretching out 40 or 50 feet & spreading a thick plateau of foliage, the extremity of the lower layers resting on the ground. There were three of the finest bands in England. that of the 1st Life Guards. – of the Coldstream guards. – & the other regiment I forget. – The villa was fine, not very large – Hooker, ^pointed out^ ~~showed us~~ the room in which Canning died. – Fox died in the room on the other side of the building, We found Sir Wm Hooker & Mr. Brown ~~waiting~~ looking for us. Of course it was the greatest day of my life in Dr. Gray's opinion: for Mr. Brown escorted me on his arm for a long time, & was very polite & agreeable. Hooker brought letters for Dr. G. to use on the continent. At evening we drove home

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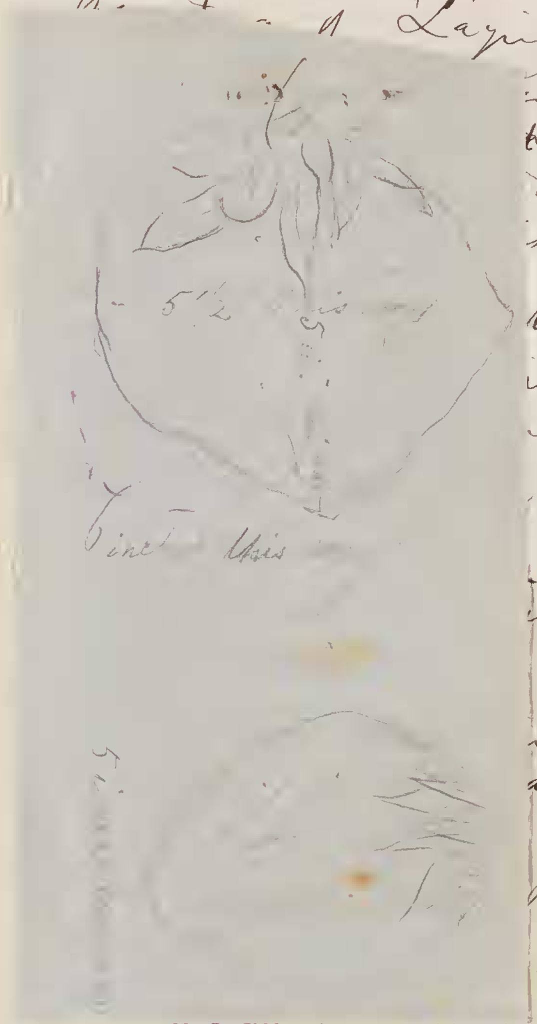

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+ Monday noon. Bid adieu to our good friends – left with them quantities of luggage & one carpet bag besides the trunk, & went by railway to Dover. between Folkstone & Dover very striking, going thro. long tunnels & terraces of the chalk cliffs that overhang the sea – Chalk cliffs more imposing ^even^ than you would imagine from the pictures, towering up so very tall & white, covered with green at the top – the sea washing their base. Castle very picturesque — +

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Sunday. Quiet day. Mrs. Ward well enough to come into drawing room in afternoon — We went to Clapham Rise church in morng.

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We dined at 1/2 past 5. (Dr. G. walked out under the cliffs a mile or two to Shakespeare cliff.) About 10 P.M. we went on board the steamer in a little boat. Stayed on the deck till long after midnight so close below. Started at 1/2 past 11. — women sick below & Reached Ostend at 6 A.M. (wanted to stay all night on deck, Dr. G. would not let me; so damp)
Nice breakfast at the station where the luggage was examined. Great jabber of French English & Flemish intermixed. — Left at 7 1/2 in fine cars on decent railway for Bruges, (through richly cultivated plains) where we were soon after 8 o'clock. We now felt we were in a foreign land. Such a quaint old place, & queer old gables — much deserted — clean, silent streets. — —

Cathedral — it pleased me much — first Catholic one — the fine oil paintings of earliest Flemish masters! — the Belfry & chimes — the church Notre Dame — Hotel de Ville. — the comfortable hotel & ~~so~~ capital table d'Hote, (I defy any one to diet here). (A. G. — & no need of it. she is so well, how she does eat! & she is growing positively fat) the ride that evening to Ghent, & all things I saw there — &c. — I will write of in next letter. — —) We reached Ghent Tuesday evening 16th. — Obliged to be very careful of my eyes — but visited the Cathedral & saw fine pictures of Van Eyck, &c. — Dr. G. ran about much — fine hotel — & good table d'hote — & so cheap. Left at 7 o'clock by railroad for Antwerp — reached at 9. — Dr. Gray has been writing this last night & now this morning (18th). — Our room here in Hotel du Parc, so large & handsome, & fortunately papered & carpeted in green, which is pleasant for my weak eyes — its two great windows look out over the Place Verte to a most beautiful view of the Cathedral, with its graceful spire (one of the finest & tallest in Europe) and the chimes are so sweet, every 1/4 hour. I never heard such sweet chimes. — A particularly long & full peal of its music waked us this morning at 5 o'clock. —

I mean to keep very quiet to-day, & to wait here till my eyes can safely be used. The right eye is better, the inflammation much subsided, the left is now attacked slightly — but I must take every precaution. I am wonderfully improved. Sleep soundly, eat finely, forget all about dyspepsia — walk a great deal, which troubles my poor feet unused to it. — & the pavements are rough & cobbly. few sidewalks. —

I have not read this over — & know not much what Dr. G. has written while I have ~~gone~~ gone on dictating. He has written much on his own hook, [You will be fortunate if you can read it at all A. G.]. How much & how lovingly I think of you all! — Also my most affectionate remembrances to each individually

I am always Yours. Jane L. G.